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Occupational Supply and Demand

Alaska Department of Labor

December 1979

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OCCUPATIONAL SUPPLY AND DEMAND

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In cooperation with the Employment and Training Administration,
U. S. Department of Labor

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INTRODUCTION

The development of occupational supply and demand information systems is a field still in its infancy. The current "state of the art" is such that useful data can be obtained, but there is much room for improvement. The best available data sources have their limitations, and some factors affecting occupational supply and demand can not be measured with accuracy.

This report presents a variety of information concerning occupational supply and demand in Alaska. It is organized in three parts. The first section features a table comparing the current employment and annual job openings with several sources of occupational supply. The second section presents labor union membership and employment status and the third section contains local area occupational surplus and shortage information from the Department of Labor's Job Service offices. Further introduction and discussion prefaces each section.

The intent of this report is to help satisfy the need for occupational supply and demand information in Alaska. It is by no means conclusive. It will provide information useful to educational and community planners, CETA planners, businesses, training officials, vocational counselors, and others. For further information on employment, and for detailed data on occupational demand, readers should see Alaska Annual Planning Information and the series of occupational employment statistics (OES) publications available from Research and Analysis.

EMPLOYMENT, JOB OPENINGS, AND OCCUPATIONAL SUPPLY

This section compares occupational "demand" (job openings) with several sources of occupational supply. These sources are presented separately since it is desirable to differentiate between sources of supply data. This is partially necessary because occupational supply data sources may overlap (e.g., individuals may be participating in more than one training program or be engaged in training while at the same time having an active job application filed with employment services). The supply sources are therefore kept separate so that readers may examine the data and make their own judgements concerning total supply.

A brief discussion of each data element in the accompanying table follows. It should be emphasized that, in addition to the supply data limitations listed above, the employment and job opening figures are strictly estimates. Precise net yields of occupational shortages or surplusses, therefore, should not be inferred from the table.

EMPLOYMENT AND ANNUAL JOB OPENINGS

The 1979 estimated employment and annual job opening figures are derived from Research and Analysis' annual occupational employment forecast. The forecast produces employment and job opening data for over 500 occupational titles. Available sources of occupational supply do not contain the detail of occupational information that is found in the forecast. In order to have a meaningful supply and demand presentation, many occupational titles in the forecast were consolidated into broad classifications.

The job openings are estimates of the average annual openings which will occur from 1978 through 1984. These figures consist of openings which will result from industry growth, plus openings due to death and retirement. Job openings resulting from employee turnover are not included. At present no attempt is made to measure this quantity as there is no practical way to do so with reasonable accuracy.

Future employment and job opening data are produced from Research and Analysis' newly developed industry-occupation (I–O) matrix. The matrix is based on the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) industry surveys which cover all nonagricultural wage and salary elements of Alaska's industries. Readers interested in more detail on the methodology are encouraged to consult the Occupational Employment Forecast publication.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVE APPLICANTS

The State of Alaska has 16 employment centers which offer a variety of employment related services. A job referral service is a major activity of these centers. Employment center active applicant data is available from the employment security automated reporting system (ESARS). The figures in Table 1 represent applicants having active applications with the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Service during the month of March 1979.

One basic consideration must be kept in mind when examining ESARS data and making comparisons to annual job opening figures. Some occupational groups will be underrepresented. Many professional, technical, and managerial people generally do not seek work through state employment service centers. They utilize more direct methods of securing employment. These include: writing resumes, personal interviews, contacts through professional organizations, or business and personal contacts. Trade and craft occupations may be similarly underrepresented in the ESARS data. Many trade and craft workers have union affiliations and normally seek work through their union hiring halls.

In Alaska's economy most industries are affected by seasonality. Employment, therefore, varies considerably during the year. The effect of seasonality on the state's labor force is reflected in the active applicant data. The March figures are taken at a time when unemployment is near its annual peak and the number of employment service applicants is greatest. This is especially true for those occupations most affected by seasonal fluctuations, such as trades and crafts, and services. Comparisons of these figures with the job openings will give the impression of a greater ratio of supply to "demand". In these cases demand actually has temporarily ceased and employment dropped. Those persons who would be counted in the employed column in the summer help to inflate the March applicant figures during their seasonal unemployment.

CETA

Passage of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), in 1973, established a system for local control of job training and employment programs. These programs are planned and administered by management units called Prime Sponsors. There are 16 prime sponsors in Alaska. The municipality of Anchorage qualifies as a prime sponsor under Title I of the Act. All remaining areas of the state are grouped under one prime sponsor (The Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs) and are known as the "Balance of State". Title III of CETA addresses special employment target groups and allows 14 native regional corporations to qualify as prime sponsors.

The 16 CETA prime sponsors provided information on the Public Service Employment (PSE) positions they administer. Although persons in these CETA positions are actively employed they can still be considered as a source of occupational supply, since these positions are subsidized employment and are usually of limited duration. Generally speaking, persons in CETA positions would be available for more permanent jobs in the private, government, or non-profit sectors.

WIN

The Work Incentive Program (WIN) is an effort to help those people receiving aid to families with dependent children (AFDC) become productive workers. One function of the WIN program is the placement of AFDC recipients into non-subsidized employment. Data on the number of AFDC recipients placed through WIN provides a measure of this source of occupational supply. WIN placement data used in this report covers placements made from July 1978 to June 1979.

CETA and WIN data are found in the second occupational supply column of Table 1. These two data sources represent employable persons having job skills who are an available source of occupational supply.

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

In order to engage in certain occupations in Alaska, a person must be licensed. Many of these licensed occupations are professional or technical. Data on the number of persons granted an initial license gives an accounting of the potential new entrants into the labor force in certain occupations. The Alaska Department of Commerce, Division of Occupational Licensing provided information, by occupation, on the number of initial licenses granted from July 1, 1978 to June 30, 1979 (except for airplane pilots which is the number of commercial pilot licenses granted in Alaska calendar year 1978). Aircraft pilot licensing data was obtained from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

DOL APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

The U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training maintains an information system on apprenticeship training activities. The Bureau's Anchorage office provided data on persons completing apprenticeship training in Alaska from July 1, 1978 to June 30, 1979. Like occupational licensing information, this data also provides the number of potential new entrants into the labor force, but for certain trade and craft occupations.

POST SECONDARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Alaska's post secondary educational institutions are a major source of occupational supply information. These establishments provided data on degrees awarded or programs completed during the period July 1, 1978 to June 30, 1979. One problem in utilizing this data is that many graduates are not trained for specific occupations. Rather, they acquire skills and basic knowledge applicable to many different jobs within a given discipline. In such cases an arbitrary assignment was made as to the occupation (or occupational area) most likely to be held by the graduate.

The above three sources of occupational supply are grouped together in the third supply column of Table 1. There is a possibility that certain individuals may appear on more than one listing of occupational supply. For instance, a person who graduated from a post secondary education institute during the period July 1978 to June 1949 may also have applied for an occupation license and would therefore appear on both lists.

TABLE 1

Employment, Annual Job Openings, and Occupational Supply
Alaska 1979

OCCUPATIONS	1979 Estimated Employment	Annual Job Openings 1/	Supply		
			Employment Service 2/ Active Applicants	CETA, WIN	Occ. Misc. DOL Apprent. Post. Sec. Ed.
TOTAL	168,708	13,876	16,915	3,425	4,383
PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL & MANAGERIAL	45,246	3,296	2,590	739	1,803
Architecture, Engineering, Surveying	6,004	459	335	8	310
Architects	132	9	2	-	25
Engineers	2,410	182	80	-	176
Civil Engineers	972	45	33	-	105
Chemical Engineers	35	2	0	-	3
Electrical Engineers	292	23	5	-	28
Industrial Engineers	209	25	24	-	-
Mechanical Engineers	155	11	8	-	22
Mining & Petroleum Engineers	359	46	7	-	10
Other Engineers	388	30	3	-	8
Drafters	461	39	47	7	21
Electrical & Electronic Technicians	1,432	106	45	-	34
Surveyors	371	22	110	-	16
Other Arch. Eng. Surv	1,198	101	51	1	38
Mathematics & Physical Sciences	1,187	77	110	2	47
Mathematical Occ	81	8	26	-	8
Computer Programmers	223	15	6	-	-
Comp. Systems Analysts	141	7	7	-	-
Chemists	81	5	5	-	5
Geologists	375	33	28	-	8
Atmospheric Scientists	59	1	7	-	-
Other Physical Scientists	29	1	0	-	16
Physical Sci. Technicians	174	4	1	2	4
Other Math. & Phy. Sci. Occ	24	3	30	-	6
Life Sciences	950	30	188	52	156
Agricultural Scientists	35	3	19	-	-
Biological Scientists	565	12	69	-	62
Psychologists & Counselors	115	9	68	32	23
Technicians & Others	234	6	32	20	71
Social Sciences	166	28	18	0	9
Economists & Market Anal	33	4	5	-	9
Other Social Scientists	133	24	13	-	-
Medicine and Health	2,622	238	247	56	763
Physicians & Osteopaths	298	21	3	-	114
Dentists	88	8	1	-	15
Pharmacists	146	22	5	-	18
Registered Nurses	938	76	59	2	396
Practical Nurses	155	14	46	7	150
Physical Therapists	31	3	3	-	14
Occupational Therapists	11	1	3	-	-
Dieticians	46	5	1	-	-
Dental Assistants	289	29	34	12	17
Dental Hygienists	100	14	2	-	30
Medical Lab. Tech	71	5	6	2	-
Medical Lab. Asst	36	4	1	2	9
Radiologic Techs	52	4	4	-	-
Physicians Assistants	93	10	19	-	-
Other Technic & Technol	96	6	22	9	-
Other Med. & Health Occ	172	16	38	22	37
Education	8,664	375	173	30	154
Teachers	8,242	352	96	23	117
College	1,517	65	15	-	-
Secondary	2,451	89	32	-	3
Elementary	2,931	124	38	-	7
Kind. & Preschool	413	28	3	1	-
Voc. & Others	930	46	8	20	4
Other Educat. Occ	422	23	77	7	37
Museum, Library, Archival Sci	202	17	16	36	0
Curators	10	2	1	4	-
Librarians	214	14	5	9	-
Others	58	1	10	23	-
Law and Jurisprudence	965	71	30	13	5
Lawyers	596	45	9	-	-
Judges & Magistrates	102	4	0	-	-
Other Legal Workers	267	22	21	13	5

TABLE 1

Employment, Annual Job Openings, and Occupational Supply
Alaska 1979
(Continued)

OCCUPATIONS	1979 Estimated Employment	1/ Annual Job Openings	Supply: Employment Service 2/ Active Applicants	Supply: CETA, WIN	Supply: Occ. Misc. DOL Apprent. Post. Sec. Ed.
PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL & MANAGERIAL (cont.)					
Writing	192	12	30	6	0
Writers and Editors	137	8	21	1	-
Reporters & Correspondents	55	4	9	-	-
Others			0	5	-
Art, Entertainment, Recreation	394	35	131	36	29
Actors	21	2	5	-	-
Commercial Artists	42	3	28	2	-
Dancers	29	3	4	2	-
Designers	92	7	20	-	-
Musicians & Rel	147	12	14	1	5
Photographers	65	8	23	2	-
Others			37	24	24
Administrative	3,720	316	517	140	128
Accountants & Auditors	1,461	151	72	2	99
Budget/Mgt. Sys. Anal	62	4	4	-	-
Purchase Agents & Buyers	639	67	48	-	-
Public Relat. Specialists	92	10	13	6	-
Personnel, Labor Spec	508	30	68	11	-
Inspectors & Investigators	558	20	34	7	-
Other Admin. Occ	400	34	278	114	29
Managers & Officials, N.E.C.	15,140	1,325	470	65	83
Mgr., Auto Parts & Serv	144	15	7	-	-
Mgr., Restaurant & Bar	411	42	32	-	-
Other Retail, Wholesale Mgrs	2,315	244	177	4	-
All Other Mgrs & Off	12,270	1,024	284	61	83
Misc. Prof. Tech. Manag. Occ	4,060	313	325	295	119
Audio-Visual Specialists	55	3	2	7	-
Airplane Pilots & Navigators	1,168	103	67	1	76
Radio Oper. (Incl. Air Traf. Cntrl)	697	20	34	6	11
Clergy	65	6	*	-	2
Social & Welfare Workers	742	59	154	-	-
Case Workers	411	29	45	2	-
Recreational & Other	331	30	109	116	-
All Other Prof., Tech. Mgr	2,233	122	68	163	30
CLERICAL AND SALES	46,228	4,204	4,512	1,367	1,216
Steno., Typing, Filing, & Rel	15,574	1,257	1,325	542	338
Secretaries	4,578	446	300	105	188
Stenographers	429	29	2	1	-
Typists, Keypunch, & Rel	3,513	237	363	162	30
File Clerks	378	43	55	11	-
Duplicating Mach. Oper	21	2	5	1	-
Other Machine Oper	172	18	3	-	-
Gen. Clerk/Office Clerk	4,801	367	477	184	-
Mail Clerks & Rel	101	6	0	4	-
Others	1,581	109	120	154	-
Computing & Account Recording	8,314	823	1,582	152	93
Bookkeepers & Bk. Mach. Oper	2,593	267	285	50	93
Cashiers & Tellers	3,052	325	458	35	-
Computer Operators	181	16	33	2	-
Billing & Rate Clerks	151	16	22	1	-
Medical Insur. Clerks	57	6	3	-	-
Raters (Insur)	60	7	2	-	-
Others	34	3	17	3	-
Payroll Clks. & Timekeepers	351	33	44	-	-
Accounting Clerks	1,552	130	172	24	-
Other Acct. & Statistical Clks	51	2	34	9	-
Other Comp. & Acct. Rec. Occ	383	34	534	29	-
Production & Stock Occ	4,354	380	321	11	0
Production Clerks	108	9	34	-	-
Shipping & Receiving Clerks	440	44	56	-	-
Stock Clerks	2,776	248	116	2	-
Other Prod. & Stock Clericals	1,030	79	115	9	-

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(Continued)

OCCUPATIONS	1979 Estimated Employment	Annual Job Openings 1/	Supply: Employment Service 2/ Active Applicants	Supply: CETA, WIN	Supply: Occ. Misc. DOL Apprent. Post. Sec. Ed.
CLERICAL AND SALES (cont.)					
Information & Message Distribution	4,086	476	384	119	25
Messengers & Mail Carriers	914	51	14	1	-
Telephone Operators	1,348	129	98	41	-
Telegraph Operators	85	6	2	-	-
Receptionists	645	76	168	32	-
Travel Clerks	13	0	0	-	-
Desk Clerk/Hotel Clerk	320	45	41	2	-
Reserv. Ag. Ticket Clerk & Rel	1,009	111	33	4	25
Other Info. & Message Dist	552	58	28	39	-
Misc. Clerical Occ	4,201	315	172	500	25
Collectors, Adjustors, Invest. & Rel	606	68	19	4	5
Court Clerks	147	5	1	27	-
Postal Clerks	347	13	10	3	-
Town Clerks & Other Gov. Serv	96	8	0	87	-
Teacher Aides	1,306	60	*	98	-
All Other Clerical Occ	1,699	161	142	281	20
Sales Occupations	8,899	953	728	43	737
Insurance Agents & Reps	253	26	9	-	-
Real Estate Sales & Brokers	85	9	2	-	737
Sales Clerks	5,439	580	210	11	-
All Other Sales Occ	3,122	338	507	32	-
SERVICES	23,923	2,282	2,819	779	549
Food & Bev. Prep. & Serv	11,873	1,154	1,527	178	107
Host/ess & Steward/ess	262	34	16	2	-
Waiter/Waitress	2,913	311	513	50	-
Counter or Cafeteria Attend	440	38	13	23	-
Bartenders	1,305	134	210	11	40
Chefs, Cooks	2,083	205	456	42	32
Bakers	53	5	10	1	2
Butcher/Meatcutter	310	26	23	-	-
Kitchen Helper	1,735	169	208	15	-
Other Fd. & Bev. Prep. & Serv	2,772	232	78	37	-
Lodging & Rel. Serv	5,585	583	570	200	24
Housekeepers, Housecleaners, & Rel	1,025	133	187	69	-
Bellhops & Bag Porters	69	6	2	-	-
Janitors, Window Wash. & Others	4,491	444	381	131	24
Barbering, Cosmetology, & Rel	347	40	38	4	220
Barbers	40	5	4	1	20
Cosmetologists & Hair Dressers	295	34	33	3	200
Embalmers	12	1	1	-	-
Amusement & Recreation Serv	414	45	4	1	0
Ushers & Ticket Takers	175	20	0	-	-
Recreat. Facility Attendants	218	22	3	1	-
Amusement & Concession Oper	21	3	1	-	-
Misc. Personal Serv	1,631	137	287	126	19
Ship Stewards	25	1	12	-	-
Nurse Aide/Orderly	542	34	158	16	14
Child Care Worker	499	56	56	61	5
Other Pers. Serv. Wkrs	565	46	61	49	-
Apparel & Furnishings Serv. Occ	512	51	56	19	0
Dry Cleaning	97	12	6	1	-
Laundering	402	38	33	17	-
Other	13	1	17	1	-
Protective Services	2,860	200	223	217	0
Security Guards & Rel	1,084	117	113	17	-
Police, Detectives, (Inc. Harbormaster)	959	47	47	129	-
Fire Fighters	474	26	25	37	-
Other Protective Serv	343	10	38	34	-
All Other Service Wkrs	701	72	114	34	179
TRADES & CRAFTS	53,311	4,094	6,994	540	813
(Processing Occupations)	(4,843)	(421)	(348)	(13)	(0)
Food & Rel. Prod. Proc	3,975	372	245	10	0
Cooks, Bakers, & Rel	292	29	31	-	-
Mixers, Blenders & Rel	52	4	3	1	-
Slaughterers, Fish Cleaners, etc	1,739	161	16	2	-
Cannery Workers & Others	1,892	178	195	7	-

TABLE 1

Employment, Annual Job Openings, and Occupational Supply
Alaska 1979
(Continued)

OCCUPATIONS	1979 Estimated Employment	Annual Job Openings 1/	Supply		
			Employment Service 2/ Active Applicants	CETA, WIN	Occ. Misc. DOL Apprent. Post. Sec. Ed.
TRADES & CRAFTS (cont.)					
Petroleum, Nat. Gas, Coal Proc.	125	16	11	0	0
Wood & Wood Prod. Proc.	415	13	50	0	0
Buckers, Fallers, Rel.	250	10	38	-	-
Graders, Sealers, etc.	38	1	8	-	-
Pulpers & Others	127	2	4	-	-
All Other Processing Wkrs.	328	20	42	3	0
(Machine Trades Occ)	(9,587)	(771)	(864)	(40)	(162)
Metal Machining Wkrs.	287	34	55	0	0
Machinists & Rel.	287	34	23	-	-
Other Metal Mach. Wkrs.			32	-	-
Mechanics & Machine Repairers	8,725	704	689	37	152
Auto Mechanics	1,800	131	136	5	39
Maintenance Mechanics	3,072	268	39	17	-
Millwrights	183	14	24	-	-
Other Mot. Veh. & Equip. Mech.	802	53	245	3	42
Aircraft Mechanics	1,018	92	90	2	20
Marine Mechanics	59	5	5	-	-
Powerplant Mech. (i.e. Hydroelect.)	117	6	8	-	-
Diesel Mechanics	642	64	43	1	26
Business & Comm. Mach. Rep.	188	16	2	-	-
Refrig/AC Install & Serv.	64	5	14	-	-
All Others	780	50	83	4	13
Printing Occupations	188	9	20	1	10
Typesetters & Composers	45	2	3	-	-
Printers & Rel.	125	6	16	-	-
Bookbinders & Others	18	1	9	-	-
Wood Maching Occup.	208	12	27	1	0
Cabinetmakers	33	3	16	-	-
Sawyers & Rel.	58	4	10	-	-
Wood Machinists & Others	117	5	1	1	-
All Other Machine Trade Wkrs.	179	12	65	1	0
(Benchwork Occupations)	(716)	(58)	(157)	(3)	(10)
Metal Products Workers	64	4	7	0	0
Jewelers & Silversmiths	23	2	6	-	-
Etchers, Engravers, & Others	41	2	1	-	-
Sci. Med. & Rel. Prod. Wkrs.	187	15	20	0	10
Dental Lab. Tech. & Rel.	36	4	11	-	-
Dispensing Opticians & Rel.	88	8	2	-	10
Camera Repairers & Rel.	15	1	1	-	-
Others	48	2	6	-	-
Electrical Equip. Wkrs.	226	16	25	0	0
TV, Radio, Phono Repairers	17	1	6	-	-
Commun. Equip. Assemb. & Rep.	139	10	2	-	-
Elect. App. & Rel Repair	22	2	7	-	-
All Other EL Equip. Wrkrs.	48	3	10	-	-
Wkrs. in Rubber, Plastic & Rel. Prod.	18	1	10	0	0
Furniture Finishers, Makers & Others	26	1	12	0	0
Textile, Fabric & Rel. Prod. Wkrs.	180	19	48	2	0
Furniture Unholsterers & Rel.	23	3	1	-	-
Sewing Mach. Oper.	61	6	13	-	-
Tailors	61	6	6	-	-
Dressmakers	22	2	8	-	-
Others	13	2	20	2	-
All Other Benchwork Wkrs.	15	2	35	1	0
(Structural Work Occupations)	(11,700)	(902)	(3,462)	(80)	(454)
Metal Working Occ.	468	41	113	1	57
Structural Steel Wkrs.	141	11	25	-	-
Sheet Mtl. Wkrs. & Rel.	167	13	12	-	8
Boilermakers	43	5	9	-	3
Auto Body Repairers	117	12	37	-	23
Other Metal Wkrs.			30	1	23
Welders & Cutters	525	47	206	1	110
Electrical Workers	2,338	187	347	5	52
Lineman, Cable Instal., etc.	499	33	75	-	-
Electricians	1,302	111	105	4	46
Radio Mechanics	109	11	6	-	-
All Other Elect. Equip. Wkrs.	428	32	161	1	6

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Employment, Annual Job Openings, and Occupational Supply
Alaska 1979
(Continued)

OCCUPATIONS	1979 Estimated Employment	1/ Annual Job Openings	Supply: Employment Service 2/ Active Applicants	Supply: CETA, WIN	Supply: Occ. Misc. DOL Apprent. Post. Sec. Ed.
TRADES & CRAFTS (cont.)					
Painting, Plaster, Cement, Waterproof	854	65	158	2	10
Const. & Maint. Painters	462	33	82	2	5
Other Painters	29	4	0	-	-
Paperhangers	15	1	0	-	-
Plasterers & Rel	164	15	30	-	-
Cement Masons & Others	184	12	46	-	5
Excavating, Grading, & Rel	49	4	468	0	27
Misc. Construction Workers	7,308	545	1,383	49	138
Carpenters & Rel	1,995	163	662	26	58
Bricklayers	57	4	12	-	2
Stonemasons	13	0	0	-	-
Tile Setters & Rel	45	3	6	-	-
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Rel	1,055	78	128	2	47
Asbestos, & Insulation Wkrs	79	4	18	-	7
Floor Layers & Finishers	48	3	18	-	-
Glaziers & Rel	130	8	14	-	-
Roofers & Rel	211	13	27	-	-
All Other Const. Wkrs	3,675	269	1,098	21	-
All Other Structural Wkrs	158	13	187	22	0
(Miscellaneous Occupations)	(26,465)	(1,942)	(2,163)	(404)	(187)
Truck Drivers & Rel	6,021	476	638	16	0
Other Transportation Wkrs	3,325	260	400	13	0
Bus Drivers	349	24	61	4	-
Rail Trans. Wkrs	136	3	12	-	-
Water Trans. Wkrs	245	7	60	-	-
Air Trans. Wkrs	912	91	61	-	-
Pumping & Pipeline Trans. Wkrs	81	13	22	-	-
Garage & Serv. Sta. Wkrs	1,269	92	127	3	-
Other Transp. Wkrs	333	30	57	6	-
Packaging & Materials Handling	2,524	195	891	14	0
Packaging Wkrs	1,010	107	68	6	-
Packagers & Rel	644	68	53	6	-
Baggers, Grocery	366	39	15	-	-
Hoisting & Conveying Wkrs	1,151	55	179	-	-
Other Pack. & Mat. Hand	363	33	644	8	-
Mineral Extraction & Rel	1,406	199	105	0	53
Drillers & Rel	442	64	68	-	-
Blasting & Rel	12	0	4	-	-
All Others	952	135	33	-	18
Utility Workers	357	59	87	103	20
Stationary Engineers	291	15	22	-	-
Firers & Rel	247	13	3	-	-
Water System Wkrs	107	5	5	11	-
Refuse & Sewage Wkrs	267	21	10	56	-
Elect. Pwr. Wkrs	45	4	31	12	-
Other Utility Wkrs	10	1	16	-	20
Amuse., Movie, & Rel. Wkrs. N.E.C.	33	3	7	23	0
Graphic Arts Occ	177	14	35	19	1
Darkroom Wkrs	59	6	15	-	-
Other Graphic Art Wkrs	118	8	20	19	1
UNCLASSIFIABLE TRADE & CRAFT	12,022	736	0	214	113

NOTES: Unclassifiable Trade and Craft Occupations - The employment & job opening data had several classifications such as "All Other Semiskilled Workers", and "All Other Unskilled Workers" which could not be placed into the scheme used here. Similarly the second two occupational supply column sources had data which did not seem to fit this scheme.

In the last 2 columns of Occupation Supply, details may not add to subtotals in an occupational group. This is because data was placed into the table only in the detail in which it was available.

* = No specific figure available in the data source.

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified

1/ Openings due to industry growth, plus death and retirement.

2/ March 1979 data.

UNION MEMBERSHIP AND OUT OF WORK

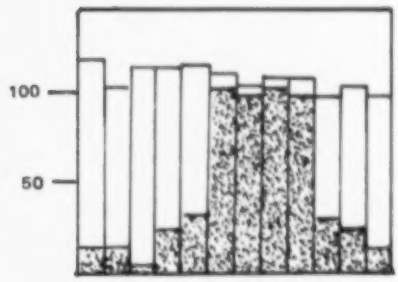
Union organizations play a vital role in Alaska labor market activities. An important source of occupational supply is the availability of unemployed union members. Research and Analysis conducts a monthly survey of many of the unions in the state. Information from the survey has been compiled and presented graphically in the following figures. The union membership and number of out-of-work members are shown for each month during the period July 1978 to June 1979. The columns show total membership while the dark areas represent members on the out-of-work list. Breaks in some illustrations result from the unavailability of data during that month.

The data gathered on out-of-work union members was not included in Table 1. Some members, however, may be included in the applicants for employment column of that table.

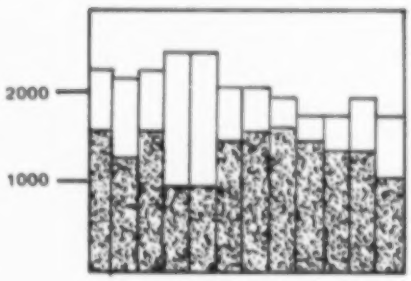
It should be noted that these illustrations are not meant to be comparable to one another. Different scales are used on each illustration. Collectively these data can provide us with an overview of an important source of occupational supply in Alaska.

The overall picture presented by the illustrations (elevated unemployment especially during the winter) is in no way unique to union organizations. It is a reflection of the general economic conditions of the times. This particular data source, perhaps, points this out more clearly than do the other available sources of information on occupational supply and demand.

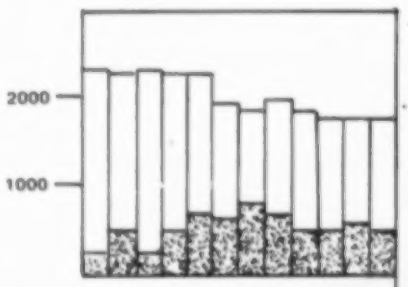
UNION MEMBERSHIP AND OUT OF WORK
July 1978 to June 1979



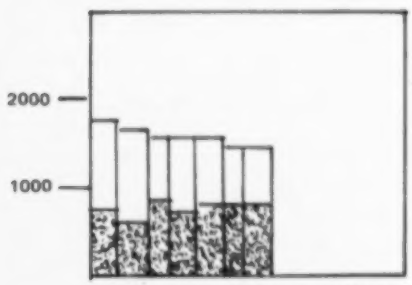
BRICKLAYERS & ALLIED CRAFTSMEN, #1 Anchorage



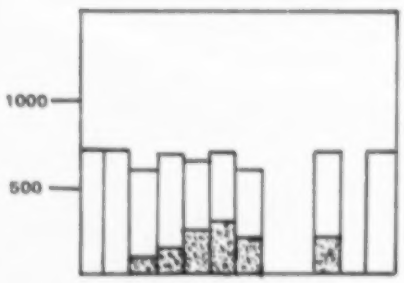
CONSTRUCTION & GENERAL LABORERS, #341 Anchorage



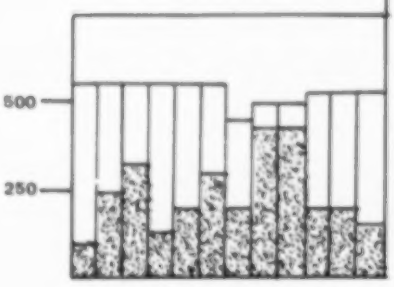
HOTEL, MOT., REST., & CONST. CAMP EMPL., #878 Anchorage



HOTEL, MOT., REST., & CONST. CAMP EMPL. & BART. INTL. #879 Fairbanks



INLANDBOATMEN'S UNION ALASKA REGION, Juneau.



INT. ASSN. BRIDGE, STRUCT. & IRONWORKERS L #751

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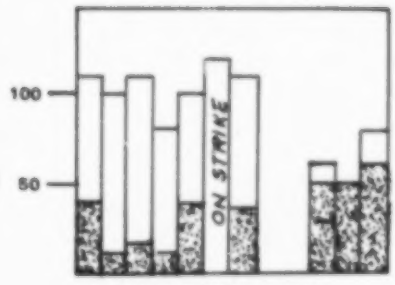
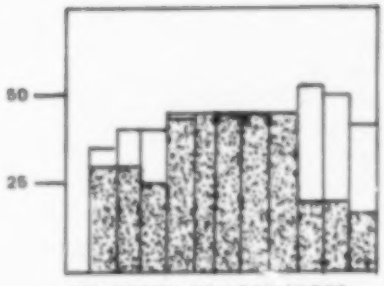
UNION MEMBERSHIP AND OUT OF WORK
July 1978 to June 1979

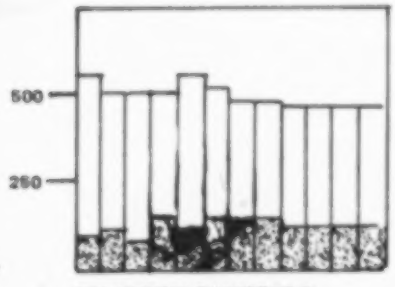


INT. ASSN. HEAT & FROST INSULATORS, #97 Anchorage

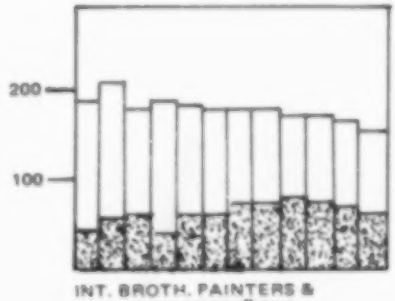
INT. ASSN. MACHINISTS & AEROSPACE WORKERS #801



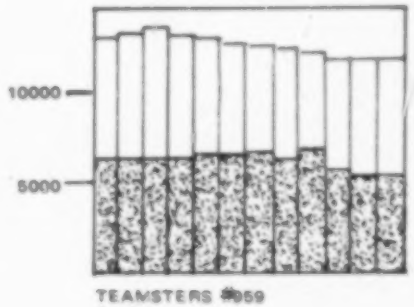
INT. BROTH. BOILERMAKERS #498 Anchorage



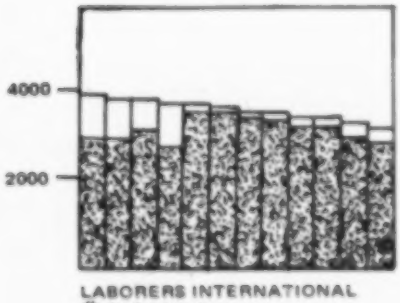
INT. BROTH. PAINTERS & ALLIED TRADES #1140 Anchorage



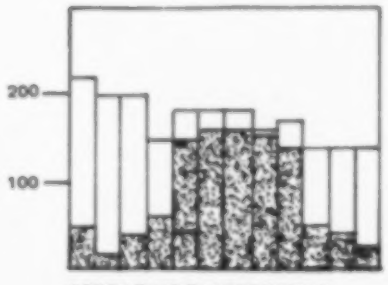
INT. BROTH. PAINTERS & ALLIED TRADES #1555 Fairbanks



TEAMSTERS #959 Anchorage

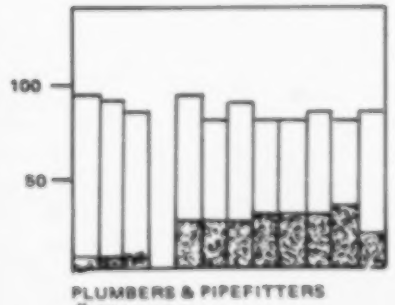


LABORERS INTERNATIONAL #942 Fairbanks

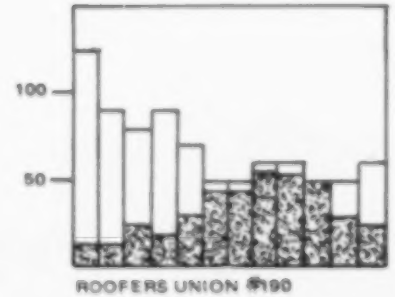


OPERATIVE PLASTERERS & CEMENT MASONS #867

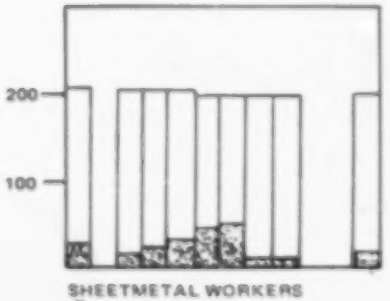
PILEDRIVERS, BRIDGE, DOCK BUILDERS & DIVERS #2520



PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS #262 Juneau



ROOFERS UNION #190 Anchorage



SHEETMETAL WORKERS #23 Anchorage

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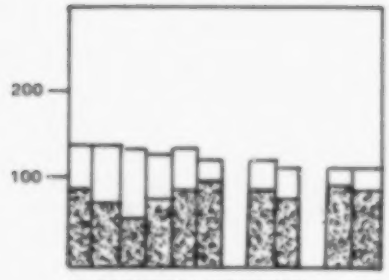
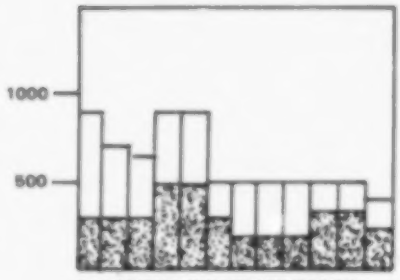
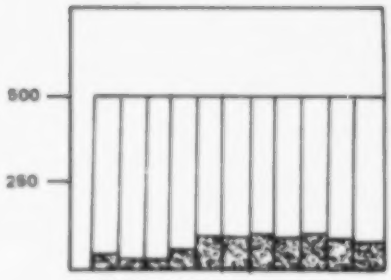
UNION MEMBERSHIP
AND OUT OF WORK
July 1978 to June 1979



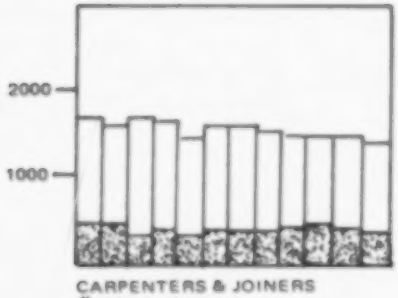
SHEETMETAL WORKERS
#72 Fairbanks



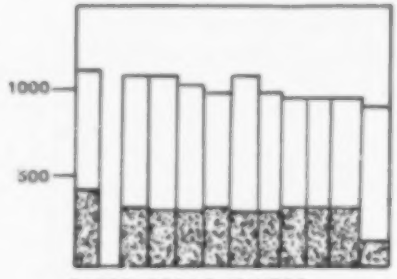
PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS
#367 Anchorage



PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS
#375 Fairbanks



CARPENTERS & JOINERS
#1281 Anchorage



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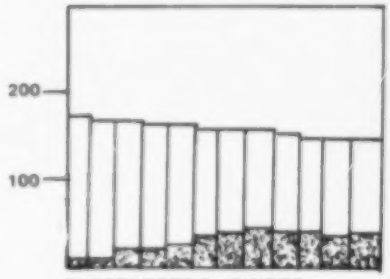
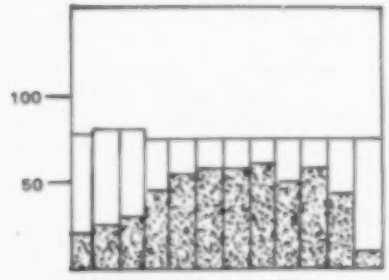
#1243 Fairbanks

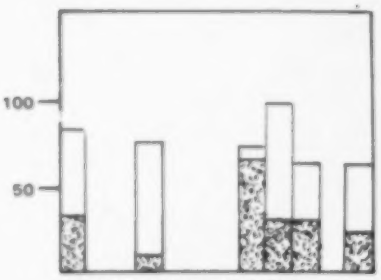


CARPENTERS & JOINERS
#2247 Juneau

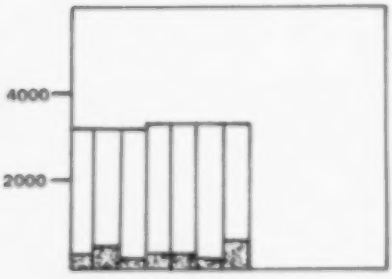


CARPENTERS & JOINERS
#1501 Ketchikan

CARPENTERS & JOINERS
#466 Sitka



CARPENTERS & JOINERS
#2162 Kodiak



IBEW STATEWIDE
(Anch., Fbks., Jnu., Ktch.)

OPERATING ENGINEERS
STATEWIDE

*Operating Engineers has a statewide membership of approx. 3000. Because members may appear on the out-of-work list at more than one location we are unable to generate a statewide out-of-work figure.

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STATE EMPLOYMENT CENTERS SURPLUS AND SHORTAGE OCCUPATIONS

The Alaska Department of Labor's employment centers were contacted and asked to review the employment situations in their respective areas. Specifically they were asked the following:

1. List the occupations for which you have a surplus of openings (more openings than applicants) or for which you have hard to fill openings. State reasons for each.

2. List the occupations for which you have a surplus of applicants (more applicants than openings). State reasons for each.

3. Please comment on any activities in your area which have affected or will affect the number of openings or applicants. For instance, have any industries recently opened, closed, expanded, or reduced activities? Will any such changes occur in the near future?

The responses of the employment centers are listed for each office by geographic region. Employment centers of the Central region will appear first, followed by those of the Northern and Southeastern regions. The Central region contains Anchorage, Bethel, Dillingham, Glennallen, Kenai, Kodiak, Seward, and Mat-Su (Wasilla). Northern region consists of Barrow, Fairbanks, Kotzebue, Tok, and Nome. Southeastern region includes Juneau, Ketchikan, and Sitka. Information was not provided for Kotzebue, Tok, and Barrow.

CENTRAL

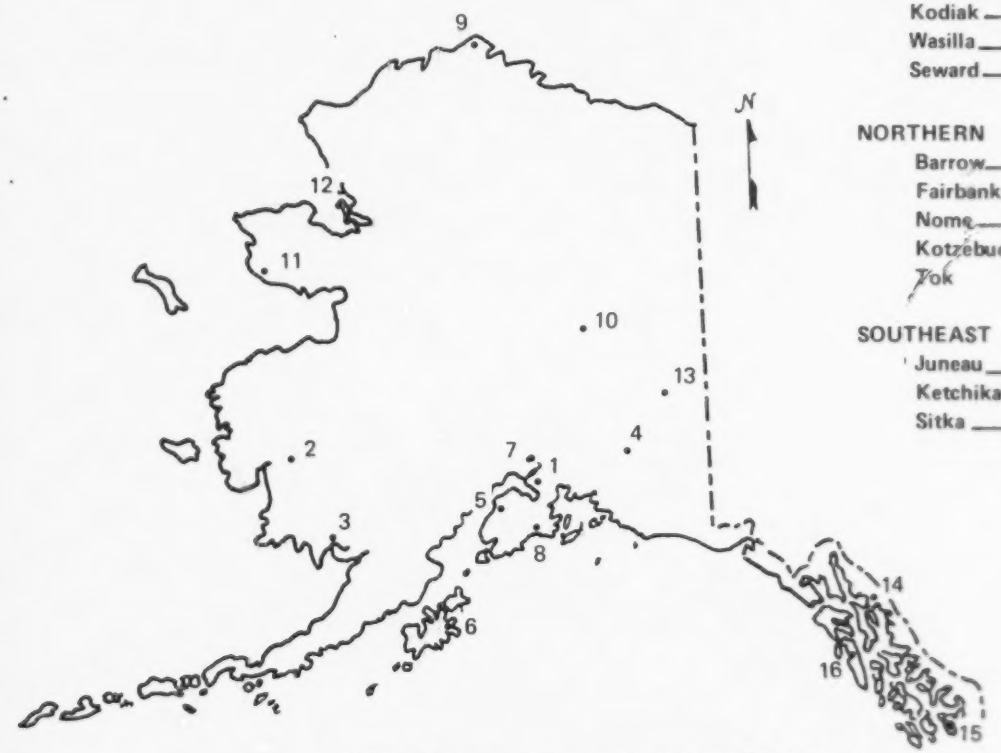
Anchorage	1
Bethel	2
Dillingham	3
Glennallen	4
Kenai	5
Kodiak	6
Wasilla	7
Seward	8

NORTHERN

Barrow	9
Fairbanks	10
Nome	11
Kotzebue	12
Tok	13

SOUTHEAST

Juneau	14
Ketchikan	15
Sitka	16



Note: The recently opened Petersburg Employment Center is not shown.

ANCHORAGE EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Professional:	
Bank Officers	Applicants lack management experience in banking industry.
Caseworkers (experienced)	Applicants lack M.S.W. degree.
Civil Drafters	Lack of qualified applicants & a large number of openings.
Civil Engineers	Lack of Arctic experience and/or professional registration.
Computer Programmer	Lack of qualified applicants.
Electrical/Mechanical Drafters	Applicants lack piping & instrumentation experience & Petro-Chemical industry experience.
Geologists	Lack of qualified applicants with Alaskan experience.
Mechanical Engineers	Lack of qualified applicants with Petro-Chemical or piping design experience.
Registered Nurses	Lack of qualified applicants who are willing to work in geriatrics or work shifts.
Clerical:	
Banking Positions; Tellers, Accounting, Clerical	These occupations pay low salary & require previous experience in banking & 10 key by touch.
Bookkeeper/Secretary	Openings require dual skills in bookkeeping and secretarial work, applicants generally have one of these.
Collectors	Mentally tiring & sometimes hazardous duties. Not enough pay for work.
Mag Card & System VI Operators	No companies will train & not many people are trained on Mag Cards.
Steno Clerks	More employers are going back to shorthand & not many people like it.
Crafts and Trades:	
A & P Mechanics	Applicants on file are not licensed. Pay is low.
Auto Body Repairer	Applicants apply direct to Body & Fender shops.
Electricians	Employers are asking for certified electricians. We have applicants, but they lack certification.
Electronics Mechanics	Shortage of trained mechanics w/CRT experience (recent experience).
Services:	
Live in Housekeepers	Low pay & demands of living in someone else's house.

ANCHORAGE EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Professional:	
Administrative Assistant	Many applicants are available for a very limited number of openings, especially those getting out of the military with strong administrative backgrounds.
Case Aides, Caseworkers	Surplus of applicants with minimal experience or lacking M. S. W. degree.
Environmental Specialists	Little demand in this area.
Management Trainee	Lack of established training programs.
Personnel Managers	Little demand in this area.
Teachers	Nationwide surplus & high wages offered in this area.
Clerical:	
Clerk General Office	Most applicants lack sufficient skills in typing, accounting and clerical work.
Key Punch Operators	Most are only qualified on old style machines & need retraining on more modern ones.
Male Vets Clerical	Employers are still reluctant to hire male secretaries & clerks, which is what these male Vets learned in the service.
Crafts and Trades:	
Carpenters	Seasonal, mostly union work.
Combination Welders	Seasonal.
Construction Workers I & II	Decline in construction due to lack of financing.
Laborer, Stores	Reduction in warehousing jobs since completion of pipeline project.
Painters	Seasonal, union work.
Services:	
Cooks, Dinner & S.O.	Dead job market.
Housekeepers	Same as above.
Janitors	Same as above.
Kitchen Helpers	Same as above.
Waiters/Waitresses	Same as above.

COMMENTS:

Professional:

A local social service agency, ARCA, is closing due to financial problems leading to a worsening of an already tight labor market situation for those in the social services field. Two elementary schools are closing next fall which will worsen employment situation for teachers.

Clerical:

A problem of great concern in the clerical field is the lack of applicants sufficiently skilled in the fast growing technology of the modern office. More employers are increasingly upgrading and purchasing new equipment such as the IBM System VI, Mag II, key punch machines and computer terminals. Employers are reluctant to train applicants so there is a great need for schools and career centers or office machine companies to set up training programs using modern equipment. Too many schools are training their students on out moded office machines. This situation allows for increased hiring of out of state applicants who have training and experience in the newer techniques.

In the post pipeline era, few companies can afford the high salaries which were prevalent during the years of pipeline construction. Today some companies are combining duties such as secretary/bookkeeper jobs while others have cut back employment or have gone out of business (several trucking firms for example). Enticed by the high wages offered by the pipeline builders, many applicants fled their more permanent and secure employment only to find themselves unemployed after completion of the pipeline. Many of these applicants are finding it difficult to readjust to lower paid employment (compared to pipeline wages) and employers, understandably, are reluctant to hire former pipeline workers feeling that these workers would not be willing to be employed permanently for the lower wages.

Anticipation of the start of construction on the gas pipeline is luring more people into the state. These new arrivals are finding that job opportunities are limited.

Unions have become very prominent in Alaska but the available job market for union workers has shrunk considerably since the end of the pipeline. Consequently, there is strong competition for non-union jobs. All of these factors have overwhelmed the local job market.

Crafts and Trade:

The lack of financial assistance from the lending institutions will predictably affect the private and residential development industry this consctruction season. Several shopping centers are being constructed on Dimond & Jewel Lake Road. This should create some new positions.

Services:

The restaurant industry in Anchorage has been suffering a great number of closures during the last quarter and many establishments have cut back their staffs because of slow business. When summer gets here the situation will improve a little due to the expected tourist business. The summer opening of the new Sheraton Hotel should provide a good number of openings also.

BETHEL EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
A&E Mechanics:	Trained & experienced applicants hard to find in this area.
Babysitters:	High turnover; low pay.
Carpenters:	Season construction in this area – Most employers hire individuals with extensive experience or union members.
Clerical & Secretarial, Bookkeeping & Accounting, Office Administrators:	Many State and Federal agencies. Also private businesses in this area. Qualified applicants hard to find.
Cooks:	Lack of qualified applicants. Pay is usually low.
Nursing Occupations:	Lack of qualified applicants; new hospital will expand demand.
Sales Clerks:	High turnover rate due to low pay.
Unskilled Temporary:	Many very temporary jobs lasting as short as 1 day to 1 week.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Building Maint. Trades:	Very limited number of positions – most applicants who reside in this area lack experience, though they may have been through a training center.
Cannery Workers:	This is due to seasonal nature of work.
Carpenters Helpers:	Though there is seasonal construction many positions are not created due to limited construction projects in area.
Heavy Equip. Operators:	Pipeline related workers who now reside in this area. Work very limited in this area.
Truck Drivers:	Pipeline workers who now reside in this area. Work limited.
Unskilled Workers:	Many applicants registered looking for work but are selective about working conditions or wages. Many do not have saleable skills, training or lack education and experience.
Welders Helpers:	These were union trained hires during pipeline construction. Occupations in this trade are very limited in this area.

COMMENTS:

New Public Health Service Hospital is still under construction. Most of its hires are Union and as such the need for unskilled workers is limited, though it may step up after the materials (construction) have arrived in the spring. Several schools are slated for construction in this area. The high point of construction activity occurs in the months of June through late October. There are three fish processors in Bethel that will begin operations in mid-June and will continue most of the summer through August. During this time most of the employees are unskilled and the commercial fishing season is in full swing. Many temporary jobs in the area will be open when the seasonal freight barges arrive on scheduled basis through the summer. Freight barges will be transporting winter supplies to the village businesses. Barging season will usually be in full swing starting from the first part of June through September.

DILLINGHAM EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Bookkeeper:	Salary too low for skill level required.
Cargo Handler Helper:	Open during fishing season.
Clerk-Typist/Maint.:	High turnover, too low pay.
Communications Clerk:	Too low pay.
Dental Assistant Trainee:	Low pay for skill level required.
Fish Workers:	Most applicants looking for gillnetting and fishing.
Laborer:	Temporary.
Maintenance Man/CETA:	High turnover, too low pay.
Researcher/CETA:	Low pay.
Secretary-Talent Search:	CETA, no eligible applicants at time of opening.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Carpenters:	Little demand.
Clerical Worker, Temporary:	Little Demand.
Eligibility Worker:	Applicants attracted by high wage & permanent position.
File Clerk:	High school graduates.
Laborers:	Lack of other training in another field.
Librarian Aide:	Low skill requirements.
Sales Persons:	Little demand.
Taxi Drivers:	Low skill requirements.
Teacher Aide:	Low skill requirements.
Truck Driver:	Short training time.
Waitress:	Low skill requirements.

Dillingham Employment Center (contd.)

COMMENTS:

A new restaurant opened this year that resulted in openings for waitresses and dishwashers. Plans for 40–50 units in the housing project will be underway during late summer, which will result in openings for carpenters, electricians, plumbers, laborers and construction workers. Forecast of a decent fish escapement for this summer will result in more openings in new businesses and the expansion of established businesses. More "cash buyer " floating fish processors will be in the bay area. Plans are being formulated to study potential for bottom fishing.

NOTE:

Inquiries regarding local hire for the housing project have been negative. Many residents expect the housing contractors to "bring in" their own workers from "outside" as they have in the past. We all feel the Alaska Plan has little affect, if any in the hiring of local residents. Applicants have difficulty in staying in the different unions as there are no union representatives in our area.

GLENNALLEN EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Cook	Low pay discourages obtaining needed training.
Hunting and Fishing Guide	Seasonal nature of work.
Professional/technical occupations, such as psychologists, accountants, etc.	Openings in these occupations are unpredictable, therefore qualified applicants are unlikely to locate in this area.
Radio Dispatcher	High skill level required for, usually, temporary positions.
Waitress	Low pay.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Auto Mechanic	Probably due partly to the fairly comprehensive shop course in the local high school.
Cleaner, Commercial	Low skill requirements.
Kitchen Helper	Low skill requirements.
Laborers & Service Sta. Attendants	Low skill requirements.
Operating Engineer	Remained after pipeline construction.
Surveyor & Surveyor Assistant	Surveyors who worked on the pipeline have remained in the area; also, because of low skill requirements for assistants, there are a significant number of applicants with some experience in this occupation.
Truck Driver	Low skill requirements; also popular occupations with workers entering job market.

COMMENTS:

Completion of Trans-Alaska Pipeline construction has left a surplus of construction workers in the area. Many are staying on with hopes of getting work on the refinery to be built in Valdez – proposed starting date in 1980; or the gas pipeline – starting date, of course, unknown. The State Department of Forest, Land and Water Management is taking over many functions of land management and fire control formerly performed by B.L.M. It is anticipated that there will be 12 or 13 new forest technician positions in this area.

KENAI EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Advertising Sales	Low pay on commission bases.
Architectural Draftsman	Lack of education and experience.
Cooks, Dinner	Lack of experience or training.
Electricians – Licensed Non Union	Applicants do not have state card.
Mortgage Loan	No experienced applicants.
Wildlife Technician	Lack degrees.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Bakers	Lack of jobs.
Bartenders	Lack of job openings – (Seasonal)
Cannery Workers	Seasonal, these will change as the construction industry gets underway.
Carpenters	Same as above.
Construction Workers	Same as above.
Laborers	Same as above.
Machinists	Same as above.
Mechanics	Same as above.
Welders	Same as above.

COMMENTS:

Canneries are expanding which should result in more placements. Several new restaurants are opening which will call for more cooks, waitresses, etc. A new dairy queen recently opened and has employed a large percentage. Canneries to open soon.

KODIAK EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Automobile Mechanic	Applicants lack tools and experience needed.
Clerks, Accounting/Payroll	Lack of experienced and trained applicants.
Cooks	Large turnover due to experienced finding work on fishing boats. (Lower skills, more money).
Dispatcher	High skill requirements.
Laborer, Stores	Low pay, high turnover.
Maintenance Mech. with Refrig. exp.	Lack of qualified applicants.
Quality Control Technicians	Lack of qualified applicants.
Service Station Attendants	Low pay, high turnover.
Waitress	Lack of dependable, experienced applicants.
Welders	Skill level high. Most are of entry level with little experience.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Administrative Assistants	Lack necessary experience.
Air Traffic Control	Little demand in Kodiak.
Cashier	Three applicants for every one opening here.
Clerk Typist	Many applicants with little other office experience. Little demand for just typists.
Keypunch Operator	Little demand in area.
Laborer	Fluctuating construction, no other training.
Receptionist	No other training, little demand.
Salespersons	Demand not great, lack of other training.
Teacher	Surplus locally with little turnover.
Truck Driver	Work depends primarily on fluctuating construction.

COMMENTS:

Cannery workers are needed seasonally. Construction, on the whole is expected to be slow this spring and summer, however, work will resume on the new schools in the villages of Old Harbor and Port Lions. (Work on these jobs had shut down for the winter). There will be openings for carpenters, laborers, plumbers, electricians and teamsters. The new hotel that was to be constructed here this spring has encountered problems. When these are cleared, anticipated openings for 40-cooks, waitresses, bus boys, maids, hotel clerks, maintenance people, etc. Expansion of one accounting business and a new one opening, resulted in slots for accounting clerks–bookkeepers. New real estate office opened expanding the horizon for clerk, general office and receptionist, typist, girl friday.

SEWARD EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Baby Sitters	Little or no interest, low pay.
Bookkeepers, full charge	Training but no experience.
Cannery Workers	High turnover, unpleasant work.
Cooks, Boat	No "Z" cards.
Cooks, Restaurant	Little or no experience, have training geared to institutional cooking.
Engineers, (Marine Transp.)	Lack of qualified apps., no merchant marine documents.
Loggers, High-Lead	Lack of experienced applicants.
Nurses, Registered	Applicants don't have training and licenses.
Sales Clerks	Low pay.
Waitresses, Restaurant	Little or no experience, low pay, high turnover.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Auto Mechanic Helpers	Training and no practical experience.
Building Maintenance Repairers	Little demand in the area.
Carpenters	Training and no practical experience.
Clerks, General Office	Lack of openings.
Construction Workers	Lack of openings, low skill levels.
Heavy Equipment Operators	Lack of positions available.
Laborers, Day Workers	Low skill requirements.
Stevedores (Longshoring)	Local economy experiencing fewer imports.
Truck Drivers	Lack of openings, short training period.
Waitresses	Low skill requirements.

SEWARD EMPLOYMENT CENTER (cont'd)

COMMENTS:

The local cannery will be working with the bottomfish industry, which should keep many of the employees working through the winter months. Road construction has resumed from mile 6 to 24 on the Seward highway. Although the firm is based in Anchorage, most of those involved in the construction are locals. Construction on the Senior Citizens Housing begins in mid-April. The project will consist of 2 stories of 11 units, and one floor with 8 units, and a recreation area. Approximately 15–20 locals will be working on this project. A small seafood processing outfit has recently been purchased, and the new owners are renovating the buildings. A contract has been signed with the Japanese to process 800,000 pounds of shrimp. Two other contracts are in the making, and management anticipates hiring three crews to work three eight hour shifts. The owners hope to have enough work to continue through the coming winter. The logging operation on Montague Island is expected to resume. The employer has listed 50 openings for high lead loggers with this office. The YACC program has had a large impact on the youth labor force, and will continue to do so this coming year. The Seward Rec. Camp has made a few changes this year in its hiring procedures. The Department of Army had dropped all their positions with the exception of utilizing 3 individuals as Reservations Clerks. The Air Force plans to utilize high school students, paying them the minimum wage which will cut their costs. This will also reduce the number of positions which would normally be available for the older employee. Those employees who are presently working part-time for the small businesses will find themselves working full-time as activity increases with the tourist season.

MAT–SU (WASILLA) EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Cable Splicer	Lack of qualified applicants.
Cosmetology/Hairdressing	Lack of licensed applicants.
Engineers - All types	Lack of qualified applicants.
Helicopter Pilots	Lack of qualified applicants in area.
Programmer	Lack of qualified applicants.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons.
Carpenters	Too many applicants for jobs available.
Clerical Occupations	Minimal skills or lack of recent experience and training.
Heavy Equipment Operators	Not enough demand in the area.
Laborers	Too many applicants for jobs available.

COMMENTS:

A Manufacturing company shut down in December affecting approximately 146 jobs. Matanuska Telephone has reduced staff 20 percent due to funding (will not receive new funds until August). Matanuska Electric has increased staff 50 percent since they received their funding in January. One construction company has 184 homes to be completed by September. Most construction is being hampered by tightening of VA, FHA, and bank loans. Target date for funding from financial institutions is July 1 at the earliest. Only openings that are really hard to fill are highly specialized occupations as listed. Due to the high rate of unemployment in the area, there are almost always many more applicants than there are job openings.

FAIRBANKS EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:	
Baby Sitters	Low pay, nature of work.	
Bank Teller	Low pay, need prior experience.	
Cab Drivers	Sporadic hours, low pay.	
Dental Hygienists	Lack of Statewide Training program.	Need Cert./License.
Housekeeper, Live-in	Low pay.	
Medical Occupations– Physicians Asst.	Lack of Statewide Training program.	Need Cert./License.
Physical Therapist	Lack of Statewide Training program.	Need Cert./License.
Secretary	Lacking strong clerical qualifications.	

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Auto Mechanics	Lack of tools.
Clerk, General Office	Low skills, no job orders.
Construction Workers	Many jobs are union.
Dishwashers	Low skills.
Janitor	Low skills.
Salespersons	General skills.
Teachers/Educators	Lack of certificates.
Truck Drivers	Many jobs are union.

COMMENTS:

Opening of a restaurant plus future openings of a major retailer and a major discount grocery store should create an increase of jobs for the local community.

NOME EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Bookkeepers:	The more qualified applicants are already working.
Cashier-Checker:	Low pay.
Clerk-Typist:	Many Clerk-typists with low typing levels, poor spelling & grammar & attendance records, a good clerk-typist is hired immediately.
Janitors:	Low pay and varied hours cause difficulty in keeping the positions filled.
Laborer, mining & quarrying, Thaw field laborer:	At the peak of the summer activity in the area, most extra labor is already picked up. Seasonal work of short duration.
Professional (Teachers, Pharmacists, etc.):	The Nome Job Center jurisdictional area is vast, approximately 25,000 square miles. The population is perhaps 6,000. As a consequence, professional persons are either working in the area or have secured employment elsewhere necessitating bringing others in. It should be pointed out that though these positions listed are a little more difficult to fill than others, they do get filled.
Secretary:	Difficult to fill because of shorthand requirements.
Teller:	Low Pay
Welders, Certified:	Seasonal work of short duration, many welders in area, few certified that wish just temporary work rather than whole season.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Carpenters:	Post pipeline, little construction.
Clerks:	Many applicants with poor attendance records.
Clerk-Typists:	Many applicants with low skill levels.
Laborers:	Post pipeline, little construction.
Mechanics:	Post pipeline, little construction.
Operators:	Post pipeline, little construction.
Truck Drivers:	Post pipeline, little construction.
Utility Men:	Too many entry level workers that have never done any work except for occasional summer job.

Nome Employment Center (contd)

COMMENTS:

The city of Nome is the northern crossroads and stopping off point for many people. It is a place where students come for a summer's Arctic adventure and a staging area for village people going on to Anchorage or Fairbanks. Residents of the surrounding villages migrate into Nome for a taste of the 'city' life. People from other parts of the state come for a year or two and then depart. The transitory nature of the population leads to a precarious situation for the Nome job market. A constant turnover in positions creates an illusion of more openings than there actually are. The Nome area is plagued by a higher cost of living than in other metropolitan areas of the state. With the exception of government employees, pay rates are not comparable to prevailing wages in other areas.

The villages in the region and much of Nome itself are dependent on subsistence, not only for culturally preferred food and products that cannot be purchased in stores, but for survial. Dependence on subsistence, with the necessity and/or desire to take part in these activities, makes it unnecessary for many area residents to become firmly attached to the labor market. Those who have obtained marketable work habits and skills in the pipeline period are now returning to the subsistence way of life. They do not see an advantage to obtaining new skills that can only be used sporadically.

Schooling may also present special problems. Many young people have a desire to become welders, truck drivers, operators, mechanics and carpenters. These are skilled, good paying jobs. Unfortunately, if the applicant applies for union apprenticeship, the requisite schooling will sometimes be a couple years distant. If the applicant goes to Seward (which has a skill training center) or another school, frequently there is no work when the training is completed. By the time the applicant finds an opportunity for employment in his field of training, his newly acquired skills will have become rusty.

The emergence of Native Corporations, the continued growth of govern ent and the growth of health corporations and other service agencies have all led to increased demands for clerical and other white collar workers. These positions generally provide the most stable year round employment (in an area of extreme seasonality) with good pay and benefits. Most males, however, wish to continue with traditional blue collar work and not be in an office. Some women are also shying away from the offices and desire training as truck drivers, welders, etc. The jobs in the Nome area, however, are and will increasingly be of the white collar variety. During the last several years, truck drivers with as much as twenty years of experience have only been able to pick up two weeks to two months of seasonal work, which is insufficient to live a year on.

Speculation is rampant in Nome. The January 19, 1979 "Wall Street Journal" had an article stating that U.V. Industries was going to liquidate its assets. One of these assets is the Alaska Gold Company, a separate corporation wholly owned by U.V. Industries, and the largest employer in Nome. Alaska Gold, at the peak of the season in July 1978, had 209 employees. With the price of gold continuing to rise, Alaska Gold has spent millions reopening (after having shut down in 1963). They are taking applications for this summer's work and say the announcement will not affect this season. What might happen in the future remains unknown. The Department of Transportation has announced that they will replace three wooden bridges in the area this summer but additional hires are not expected since its likely that employees from last seasons project will return. The Golovin Fish Co-operative is putting $250,000 into additional facilities and foresees hiring a maximum of 100 workers (versus 70 last year) during the peak of the salmon season. The Public Health Service has a project in Koyuk. Ghemm Construction will finish housing in Gambell, Wales and Koyuk. A 100,000 pound capacity freezer facility is planned for Gambell as a prototype for future facilities. It is hoped that this facility will preserve walrus and other meats in the summer that are not fully utilized because of storage problems. It is possible that a market might be developed for these products. The "Antiquities Act" and creation of the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve should result in several openings with the federal government.

Nome Comments (contd.)

The Nugget Inn plans expansion. An increase in beds should mean more overnight tourists. In the tourist industry such off-season activities as the Iditarod Race and basketball tournaments have made a small but significant contribution. Atlantic Richfield plans a test well south of Nome in Norton Sound for the summer of 1980. The state of Alaska Five Year Oil and Gas Leasing Schedule for January 1979 lists late 1981 and mid-1983 as dates for planned lease sales in the Norton Basin area. The impact to the Nome area in the 1980's could be substantial.

KETCHIKAN EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Baby Sitters/Child Monitors	Low pay, lack of applicants
Sales Persons	Lack of experienced applicants and commission pay unattractive due to local economic situation.
Waiter/Waitress	Lack of experienced applicants.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Cannery Workers & General Laborers	Ketchikan is first stop on ferry. Word was passed (incorrectly) through the media that there were lots of jobs available in Ketchikan.
Carpenters	Lack of construction contracts for this area.
Construction Workers	Lack of construction activity at present.
Truck Drivers (lt. & heavy Exc. Logging)	Lack of trucking activity due to short road system.

COMMENTS:

In general, since the settlement of the 7 month pulp mill strike, the labor exchange has stabilized and we find a fairly good balance between supply and demand in the various occupational groups. The construction season this year looks very active with the multi-million dollar pulp mill pollution control installation continuing and with the following construction projects beginning: Hospital renovation and additions ($5 million); Bar Harbor expansion ($2 million); Cape Fox Corp. Hotel Const. ($7 million). Logging will continue at a good rate with prediction for the fisheries industry ranging from fair to good.

SITKA EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Babysitters	Lack of interest in this type of work due to low pay.
Bakers	Lack of experienced applicants.
Cooks, Restaurant	Opening of several new restaurants resulted in shortage in this occupation.
Grapple Operators	Seasonal work, experienced applicants do not remain in area.
Licensed Practical Nurses	Shift work.
Maintenance Repairer, Bldg.	Lack of well qualified applicants and insufficient pay.
Night Auditors	Undesirable hours plus two new hotels resulted in shortage.
Pipefitters	Lack of experienced applicants.
Police Officers	Pay is not sufficient for responsibilities.
Sales Clerks	Low pay.
Secondary Ed. Teacher, Bilingual	Applicant needs to be proficient in a certain Filipino dialect as well as English.
Waitresses	Several new restaurants in area have resulted in shortage of experienced applicants.
Welders	Lack of qualified applicants with sufficient experience to pass required tests.
Yarder Engineers	Seasonal work so applicants do not remain in area during winter months.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Carpenters	Lack of experience to qualify as journeyman.
Construction Workers	Local contractors are mainly union and do not hire non-union.
Teachers	Not enough demand. High wages result in lack of turnover.
Truck Drivers	No demand for non-union truck drivers.

COMMENTS:

Two new hotels and two new supermarkets have opened in the past year resulting in a very healthy economy. The Forest Service has expanded operations in the Sitka area and we have had openings for such professional jobs as archeologists, archeologist technicians, wildlife biologists, botanists, hydrologists, etc., that we have been unable to fill locally or even through the job bank. The Green Lake Hydroelectric Plant which is currently under construction has attracted a number of construction workers to this area, many of whom are not qualified for the union jobs.

JUNEAU EMPLOYMENT CENTER

Surplus of Openings or Hard to Fill Openings:	Reasons:
Clerk Typists	Clerical support for seat of state government.
Computer Programmers	Competition for good applicants from private industry in lower 48.
Dental Assistants	Low pay, no future, qualified applicants take other jobs.
Legal Secretaries	Qualified applicants working.
Mag Card Typists	New field, little opportunity for training.
Marine Mechanics	Any qualified applicants already working.
Nurses, Registered	Qualified applicants working.
Services–Waitresses/Waiters, Maids, Buspersons, etc.	Low pay.

Surplus of Applicants:	Reasons:
Administrative Assistants	Beginning mgmt. for college grads.
Biologist	College grads far exceed number of entry level jobs available.
Construction–Carpenters, Electricians, Plumbers, etc.	Most construction through local unions, work is seasonal.
Forestry Related	College grads far exceed number of entry level jobs available.
Research Analysts	Entry level for college grads.
Sales Clerks	Little experience required.
Teachers	College grads far exceed number of entry level jobs available.

COMMENTS:

Proposed wilderness areas may create some forest service jobs. Record salmon runs in recent years may increase cannery activity, may reactivate old canneries. There will be a possible reopening of the lumber mill in Haines. Taku Lodge, under new ownership, will open for tourists in 1979. Wien Airlines new routes through Juneau will require more employees.